People's Platform
The People's Platform — a place where News readers may sound off at any time on any topic of public interest — is in its regular place on the editorial page today. Turn to Page 10-A.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Allied Patrols Plague New Communist Buildups

M'ARTHUR SAYS BOMB PLAN VETOED

Israel, Syria Agree To Call Off Fighting

TEL AVIV, Israel —(AP)— Israel and Syria agreed today to a cease-fire in their brief but bloody warfare on the frontier.

A communique said the "complete and sincere cease fire" was effective at 1:30 P. M., Greenwich Time (8:30 A. M., EST).

The agreement was reached by the heads of the Israeli and Syrian delegations in the mixed armistice commission which has been meeting near the frontier under United Nations auspices. Announcements of the cease fire arrangement were made simultaneously in Damascus and Tel Aviv.

Israeli military spokesmen said Syrian troops and regulars threw two attacks on Israeli positions near Tel El Muteila on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee near the River Jordan. Both the attacks, almost two miles inside Israeli territory, were repulsed, the Israelis said.

SYRIAN VERSION

(A Syrian army communique issued in Damascus said the fighting in the Galilee-Jordan junction area was caused by two attacks launched by the Israelis against Arabs in the demilitarized zone. It said the second of these attacks was made in the presence of United Nations observers who were prohibited by the Israelis from circulating in the zone of operations and were forced to take refuge in Syrian territory.

(The communique said the head of Syria's delegation to the Syrian-Israeli mixed armistice commission protested strongly to the chief U. N. observer that Israel committed new violations of the armistice agreement which ended fighting on the frontier in the Palestine war in 1949. The Syrians denied Israeli charges that they invaded Israel's territory in an attack supported by heavy artillery.)

United Nations observers estimated that 42 Syrians were killed and 33 wounded in yesterday's fighting, but that it was impossible at that time to estimate Israeli losses. Dead and wounded lay on the battlefield in Israeli territory, in the demilitarized zones and beyond.

Workers assigned to draining the Huleh swamps in the battle area went to their jobs this morning as usual, but there was an atmosphere of high tension over what was considered there the heaviest warlike preparations since the bitter dispute over the area began. The feeling was reported even more bitter than during the Palestine war.

(The Damascus communique said eight Israeli tractors in the swamp area were forced to halt and that workers fled before Syrian fire. It said Israelis soldiers returned heavy fire on Arabs and on nearby Syrian military posts. One Arab was killed and six were wounded in the sector, the bulletin said, adding that fire was continuing without letup.)

Tank Units Rout Enemy From Holes

Air-Ground-Sea Co-Operation Cited

By OLEN CLEMENTS

TOKYO — (AP) — United Nations tank patrols roamed the Korean no-man's-land today on killer missions.

In the safety of distant hills, Red forces regrouped and rearmed for a new attempt to overwhelm Allied lines.

U. N. planes, hunting through low rain clouds, reported Communist trucks were rolling southward by the hundreds. They've been coming for days despite heavy losses to round-the-clock air raiders.

Combined attacks of planes and tanks early Friday drove small groups of Reds out of forward positions. They surrendered—badly scorched.

The dug-in Reds had been holding up the armored column. Tankmen called for help from the air. American Mosquito planes sprayed the Reds with fire bombs.

Air Force Capt. Gordon S. Bush of Fort Myers, Fla., said scorched Reds scrambled out of the black smoke. They fled toward the armored column with their hands high over their heads.

75 PRISONERS

Tank and infantry patrols brought back 75 prisoners Thursday. They also accounted for most of the day's toll of 1,740 Reds which the Eighth Army estimated were killed or wounded.

Columns probing out from Seoul found Red outposts in an arc about ten miles from the war-shattered old South Korean capital.

One column knifed eleven miles north to Uijongbu. It returned with 21 prisoners and one American GI who had been wounded eight days ago.

The tankers shot their way through heavy small arms fire. But none of the raiders was reported hurt.

None of the armored probings ran into the main body of Reds. Intelligence officers reported two big groupings. One was north of Seoul. The other and apparently the heavier buildup was in the Chunchon-Hwachon area. This is north of the central Korean plain and the site of the Reds' biggest success in their costly Spring offensive before it bogged down.

Airmen hammered at this buildup as they flew more than 1,000 sorties Thursday for the fifth successive day.

Airmen reported they killed or wounded an additional 800 Chinese and Korean Reds. Their heaviest blows were directed at transport and supply buildings.

Jet fighter-bombers chased one railroad train into a tunnel near the Red capital, Pyongyang. Then they sealed it in by blasting shut both ends of the tube.

PLANE SCORE

Pilots reported their bag included five locomotives, 140 railroad cars, 120 motor vehicles, two tanks, nine gun positions, 1,200 buildings, ten fuel dumps, thirteen bridges and four smoke generators.

See ALLIED on page 7-A

MacARTHUR AND HIS SHADOW

Gen. MacArthur (left) and his aide, Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney leave the Capitol for return to New York after appearing before Senate committees Thursday. MacArthur is appearing again today. (Acme Telephoto).

Not Allowed To Hit Target Near Russia

WASHINGTON—(AP) — Gen. Douglas MacArthur was quoted today as saying Washington never would let him bomb one major Communist supply point within Korea but near the Russian border.

A Senator, asking that his name not be disclosed, said MacArthur gave that testimony yesterday but censors knocked it out of the transcript of testimony made public. The Red Korean supply town was described as about 35 miles from the Russian border.

Another Senator who likewise was unwilling to be quoted by name confirmed that the censoring of testimony about bombing this target, as well as some hydro-electric installations, had inspired a protest by Senator Knowland.

Most of North Korea borders on Manchuria, but in the extreme northeast the boundary line meets Russian territory.

This Senator said MacArthur testified also that Lt. Gen. George E. Stratemeyer and Maj. Gen. Emmett (Rosie) O'Donnell had insisted that the enemy distribution point in that section within Korea must be destroyed. The two men are air officers.

RELATES DIFFERENCES

This version was given newsmen while MacArthur, for the second day, related to investigating Senators in a closed door session his differences with the Truman Administration over Far Eastern policy.

The Senate committees—Armed Services and Foreign Relations—are jointly conducting an inquiry into these differences and President Truman's dismissal of MacArthur from his Far Eastern command.

The censored transcript sent out to newsmen disclosed the general has a brisk question-and-answer exchange with Senator McMahon (D-Conn), a vigorous supporter of the Administration's viewpoint in the great dispute.

McMahon's questions ranged into MacArthur's statement last Fall that he hoped to have his boys "home by Christmas" and the general's tactics in splitting his forces for a "vin-the-war" drive in the Korean-Manchurian border.

SAYS PLAN APPROVED

As to the split forces, MacArthur said his troop dispositions had the approval of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

And as to the "home by Christmas" talk, the general said, "that was my hope."

The record indicated some signs of anger on MacArthur's part when McMahon asked whether he thought it came within the province of a theater commander "to register publicly with persons in political life, or out of it for that matter, his differences of opinion" with his Government.

MacArthur replied:

"I believe the theater commander has the responsibility of registering his views as he might see fit, if they are honest views and not in contradiction to any implementing directives that he may have received."

OPPOSED 'GAG'

Then referring to what he called the "implications" of McMahon's question, the general said he did not believe that "any segment of American society shall be so gagged that the truth and the full truth shall not be brought out."

The American way, MacArthur went on, is for full airing of diverse opinions on controversial issues while "The Soviet method is entirely in contradiction to that."

Punching away along the same line, McMahon asked how MacArthur would feel about a subordinate officer in his theater "who had felt as you feel." Would he, McMahon asked, defend the right of a brigadier general on his staff to express policy opinions contrary to those being pursued by the Government.

MacArthur: "I wouldn't have a brigadier general or anyone else on my staff that didn't freely and frankly give me his opinions in contradiction to my own. The very value of a subordinate is the freedom with which he expresses his initiative."

For that matter, MacArthur said he had had officers under his command who disagreed with him. He added: "I listened to them and on occasions they have convinced me that I was wrong and they were right."

Also under McMahon's questions, MacArthur said Communism throughout the world is "our main enemy," rather than Soviet Russia.

McMahon wanted to know whether the general, when he talked about Communism, meant "as evidenced in Red China, or the Kremlin."

"I mean all over the world," MacArthur said, "including the interior of many of the fine democratic countries of the world."

The exchange went on:

McMahon: "General, where is the source and brains of this conspiracy?"

MacArthur: "How would I know?"

With another series of questions, McMahon suggested the Kremlin might be the place. MacArthur said he thought "world opinion would co locate it."

A little later, McMahon said "It is obvious that we agree that they are our main enemy—that the Soviet Union is."

WORLD COMMUNISM FOE

MacArthur said he had not agreed to that, and added:

"I said that Communism throughout the world was our main enemy."

In his row with the Administration, MacArthur has argued that Communism must be opposed in Asia just as strongly as anywhere else. The Administration position is that the most vital point of all is to keep Western Europe, with its industrial resources, out of Red hands.

MacArthur told the Senators yesterday it was revealed today, that he was first instructed not to bomb

See M'ARTHUR on page 7-A

Duke, Union Talks Are Recessed Here

Prolonged negotiations between officials of Duke Power Co. and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen for a new working contract for Duke's bus drivers have been "recessed" in a deadlock.

A brief statement today from operating headquarters here of the power company said that "negotiations for a contract have been recessed for the present without an agreement."

Efforts to communicate this afternoon with Joe B. Pierce, spokesman here for the bus drivers' union, were unsuccessful. A report from his home said that he was expected to return to Charlotte later today.

The situation involving the Duke company's bus drivers and the company management have been troubled intermittently since December, 1949, when negotiations were undertaken for contract renewal. These negotiations dragged along through several earlier months of last year and a strike was narrowly averted.

JANUARY NEGOTIATIONS

Contract negotiations were resumed last January. Subsequently, reports were in quiet circulation that the inability of the company and the union to reach an agreement resulted in mediation. However, all interests concerned with the mediation reports completely withheld comment until today.

Nothing definite was available from any official source regarding possibilities of the next move in this situation. In the past, similar situations involved possibilities of renewal of negotiations, special appeals for Federal mediation, and a strike vote by the bus drivers.

Previous negotiations between Duke Power and the BRT have involved bus drivers in a half-dozen Carolina towns, including Charlotte.

June Draft Call Set At 20,000

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Army today issued a draft call for 20,000 men in June.

This is the smallest number in any monthly call since the draft was resumed last September. Since that time, a total of 550,000 men have been drafted or placed on call for Army duty.

The Army got 80,000 men in each of the first three months of this year. Thereafter, the April draft was halved to 40,000 and the May quota was reduced from 60,000 to 40,000.

The Army said the cutbacks were made because of the greater number of men volunteering for service and the lower-than-expected casualties in Korea.

OUR WEATHER

Mostly cloudy and cooler today, tonight and Saturday. Scattered thundershowers today. Occasional light rain tonight and Saturday.

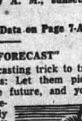
High yesterday, 88 degrees.

Sunrise, 6:28 A. M.; sunset, 7:11 P. M.

More Weather Data on Page 7-A

TRICK "FORECAST"

Here's a forecasting trick to try on your friends: Let them pick any day in the future, and you guarantee to predict correctly whether it will be wet or dry—provided they allow 24 hours' leeway as margin of error. It makes no difference which you predict; you have about 50 per cent chance of being correct, either way, if the 24-hour margin is allowed. Such methods are occasionally used by some self-styled "long-range forecasters," who are not forecasting at all, but merely playing the odds. Anyone can do it.



Ridgway Confident Allies Can Hold Off Red Assault

By ROBERT EUNSON

U. S. 8TH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Korea—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway said today the Reds in Korea will "continue to pay the bloody price they've been paying."

The new Allied supreme commander made the statement at Eighth Army headquarters on a two-day inspection of the Korean warfront.

He said United Nations frontline troops have "complete confidence, complete self-assurance in their ability to handle anything that's thrown at them."

"In fact," he said, "the only uncertainty I find anywhere in my mind is how long those fellows (the enemy) are going to continue to put up with the empty Communist promises to throw us out of Korea and destroy the United Nations army.

"So far the only things they've succeeded in destroying are a few tens of thousand more of their own men, and so far as I can see they're going to continue to do that—continue to pay the bloody price they've been paying.

"Maybe some day these people who are used as cannon fodder will wake up and listen to reason.

"It's a tragic thing that they have to sacrifice so many tens of thousands of people and continue to devastate this country for their own aggressive selfish ends."

Ridgway congratulated the commander of the South Korean First Division, Maj. Gen. Koong Moon Bong.

The supreme commander said he hoped all South Korean divisions would live up to the reputation the South Korean first made for himself in defending Seoul.

Ridgway also visited the U. S. Ninth and Tenth Corps headquarters, the U. S. First Marines, First Cavalry Division and the 24th and 25th Infantry Divisions.

He conferred almost an hour with President Syngman Rhee of Korea, before returning to Tokyo tonight.

GOP Loses Battle To Open Hearings

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The Senate by a vote of 41 to 37 today blocked a Republican drive to open the MacArthur-Far East policy hearings to the public.

Senator Wherry of Nebraska, the Republican floor leader, thereupon told the Senate that the forces favoring the open hearings, which he has quarterbacked, "have done our level best."

He indicated there would be no immediate effort to renew the fight.

The vote was on a move to take up a Republican-sponsored resolution which would direct that the hearings on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's ouster by President Truman be opened to the public.

The hearings now are being held behind closed doors and the testimony is being relayed to newsmen after it has been censored by State and Defense Department security officers.

Democrats argue that vital military secrets might be spread abroad in open hearings.

By 42 to 36 vote, the Democrats yesterday forced a recess of the Senate until 11 A.M. (EST), today after hours of angry debate. The action headed off a vote on the hearings issue.

The vote was strictly on party lines with one exception—Senator McCarran (D-Nev) voted with the Republicans against the recess. McCarran has denounced the dismissal of MacArthur and declared President Truman should reinstate him.

Tempers cracked in yesterday's debate. At one point Senator Ferguson (R-Mich) charged that Senator Kerr (D-Okla) had accused him of "trying to give comfort to an enemy." He called Kerr's words a "falsehood."

NOT ACCUSING

Kerr replied he had not accused Ferguson of anything, and read again to the Senate these words he had spoken earlier when his Michigan colleague proposed to open up the hearings:

"Is the Senator not aware that what he here and now proposes would make it possible for the information to reach the enemy without his having to go to so much trouble? I wonder if he is seeking to make it easier for him."

Wherry told the Senate the closed door hearings were inviting costly "leaks" of information which could hurt security, and merely served to give the people "garbled reports."

U. S. Soldier's Death Probed

By RICHARD O'REGAN

VIENNA, Austria — (AP) —An American military policeman was shot to death by two Russian soldiers early today and U. S. authorities immediately demanded that Soviet officials join in an investigation.

An autopsy showed the American, Cpl. Paul Gresens, 28, of Rochester, N. Y., was struck in the stomach by nine bullets from a Russian machine pistol. Cpl. Jack Morgan of Keokuk, Ia., who was with Gresens on patrol, said the Russians stood between ten and twenty feet away from Gresens when they cut loose with about twenty shots after being challenged in central Vienna outside a night club. The Russians fled to the Soviet sector after the shooting.

Lt. Col A. Korshev, the Soviet provost marshal in Vienna, was reported to have expressed verbal regrets in a two-hour talk this afternoon with Lt. Col. Henry G. Thomas, his U. S. opposite number. No details as to what caused the incident have been made public.

American military police are in control of the sector where the shooting occurred during the month of May. The control rotates among the occupying powers each month.

U. S. Will Boycott Czech Celebration

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Most State Department officials are planning to boycott a Czech embassy reception next Wednesday in celebration of "the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet army."

They don't like that wording on the embassy's invitations. It ignores the fact that American forces took part in the liberation of Czechoslovakia at the end of World War II.

Atomic Plant Strike Ended

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. —(AP)— Striking A.F.L. construction workers returned back to their jobs today on a huge atomic plant project, apparently ending a four-day walkout.

An hour after the day shift was due to report, a spokesman for the contractor said:

"It looks like it is over. We have less than 500 men absent and they're still coming in. Our normal absenteeism is about 150. I'd say before the day is over we'll have no more than 300 absent."

The strikers apparently decided to heed urgent pleas of their union leaders and job stewards that they return to work immediately.

Some 1,500 of 3,200 workers on the project walked off the $227,000,000 job Tuesday in protest against refusal of Maxon Construction Co., the contractor, to pay a negotiated wage increase.

Maxon Construction Co. has offered to pay at once all increases possible under the WSB 10 per cent formula and to make any further pay hikes approved by the board retroactive to May 1.

Agriculture Dept. Cut Recommended

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A 12 per cent cut in the Agriculture Dept.'s budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 was recommended today by the House Appropriations Committee.

The committee approved a $720,157,433 budget, $99,848,113 less than President Truman asked and $52,742,267 less than the department received this year.

Russian Army Strength Estimated At 2,800,000

LONDON —(AP)— British Government intelligence has revised its estimate of Soviet Army strength to 200 divisions, a qualified source said today.

Only last March American and British estimates of Russian strength placed Soviet army manpower at 175 divisions and 2,600,000 men.

The new figure does not necessarily mean the Soviets are mobilizing, the source said. It could mean that better or more detailed intelligence reports brought about the revision, or it could mean the Russians are building their forces in the same way the Western Allies are swelling theirs.

An average Russian division is believed to be made up of 10,000 combat troops plus the usual reserves, technicians, cooks, drivers and so forth. Some reat echelon divisions still rely on horse-drawn transport, but front line formations are said to compare favorably with the best now at hand in the west with regard to equipment, training and morale.

Last March the British War Office estimated Red China had 2,500,000 men under arms, organized i nso armies, each about the size of a Western army corps. British estimates of the combined armed strength of the Soviet dominated states — Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria — run to 1,000,000 men.

Thus, the combined military might of all Communist satellite nations is placed at about 6,500,000 men.

Gen. MacArthur, deposed U. N. supreme commander for Korea, gave Senate investigators in Washington yesterday his guess on the size of Russia's armed forces, but the figure was kept secret.

The British informant would not say how the British believe the Soviet army is disposed, but he said the British had no evidence to show any extraordinary buildup of manpower in Asiatic Russia. There had been published reports here the Soviets were moving aircraft and supplies to Chinese Manchuria and were strengthening garrisons in the Kuril islands north of Japan.

Cut Ordered In Steel For Autos

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The Government today ordered another five per cent cut in the use of steel for passenger autos and station wagons. That reduces permitted consumption to 75 per cent of the level in the first half of 1950. The cutback is effective June 1.

On July 1, the National Production Authority announced, a further expected cut will reduce usage to 70 per cent for passenger cars, station wagons and light trucks.

At mid-year also, NPA said, it is anticipated the steel going into medium trucks will be limited to 100 per cent of the early-1950 level, and for heavy trucks of more than 16,000 pounds, to 120 per cent of that base period.

What's Inside

	Page
Classified Want Ads	5B-11B
Comics	14A
Crossword Puzzle	14A
Editorials	10A
Radio Program	14A
Serial Story	14A
Sports	6B-8B
Theaters	14A
Wishing Well	13A
Women's Pages	5B-6B